

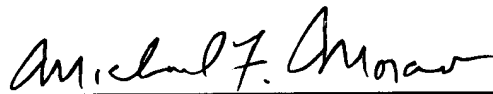
**REMARKS**

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3-6, 12 and 15-16 have been amended by the present Amendment. Amended claims 1, 3-6, 12 and 15-16 do not introduce any new subject matter.

A Notice of Allowance and Fees Due was mailed on July 26, 2006 in the above-referenced application. While Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-16, Applicants request that the application be withdrawn from issue, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.313 and M.P.E.P. § 1308, for consideration of the present Amendment, which is being filed herewith a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) and the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e). The issue fee has not been paid.

An early and favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any questions or comments, the Examiner may telephone Applicants' Attorney to reach a prompt disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael F. Morano", is written over a horizontal line.

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